The details of grants-in aid released under the Centrally Sponoserd Scheme of Coaching and Allied Assistance for Scheduled Tribes are as under:

(Rs. in lakhs)

Sl. No.	Name of States	2001-02	2002-03	2003-04
1.	Andhra Pradesh	Nil	8.04	Nil
2.	A&N Island	2.79	Nil	Nil
3.	Assam	Nil	1.69	Nil
4.	Karnataka	2.15	1.76	Nil
5.	Orissa	2.49	4.82	Nil
6.	Tamil Nadu	Nil	0.2	Nil

(c) Assistance is provided to State Government or University/Colleges and other NGOs and private sector Institutes of repute who should be either a Trust, Company, Partnership firm, or registered Society. These NGOs and private sector Institutes should be running coaching courses and should have achieved distinction during the preceding three years in terms of success rate of candidates coached by such institutions.

National Commission for welfare of backward section

1873. SHRI KARNENDU BHATTACHARJEE: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is fact that Government have decided to set up a National Commission to recommend steps for the welfare of socially and economically backward section amongst religious and linguistic minorities including reservation in education and Government employment;

(b) if so, what is the criteria to identify the socially and economically backward sections amongst the religious and linguistic minorities; and

(c) by when the commission is expected to be set up and start functioning?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRIMATI SUBBULAKSHMI JAGADEESAN): (a) to (c) A National Commission has been constituted *vide* Resolution No. 1-11/2004 MC (D) dated 29th October, 2004. The terms of reference of the Commission require it to suggest criteria for identification of socially and educationally backward sections amongst the religious and linguistic minorities.

Exchange of vacancies between SC/ST of Orissa

1874. DR. RADHAKANT NAYAK : Will the Minister of TRIBAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the decision of exchange of vacancies between Scheduled Tribes and Scheduled Castes that existed earlier depending on the respective Community's preponderance has since been withdrawn by the State Government of Orissa; and

(b) if so, the steps Government propose to take in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF TRIBAL AFFAIRS (SHRI P.R. KYNDIAH): (a) Yes Sir. The exchange of vacancies between Scheduled Tribes and Scheduled Castes in respect of Class-III and Class-IV posts and services has been withdrawn by Government of Orissa *vide* Orissa Act II of 1992, after introduction of post based reservation.

(b) Government of Orissa have issued a circular in this regard *vide* their letter No. 21429 dated 03-04-2003.

Formulation of National Tribal Policy

1875. SHRI K. CHANDRAN PILLAI:
SHRI A. VIJAYA RAGHAVAN:

Will the Minister of TRIBAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the competent authority has formulated a National Tribal Policy;

(b) if so, the details and the status thereof;

(c) whether the above policy provides for better educational/health facilities and poverty eradication schemes;

(d) if so, the details thereof;